

APPLICATION PACKET
2009 PARTIAL IMMERSION FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACADEMIES
STARTALK ARABIC AND CHINESE
GOVERNOR'S JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND RUSSIAN STUDIES

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>

READ CAREFULLY

The Governor's Foreign Language Academies are sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education (DOE) and hosted by Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). The Startalk Arabic and Chinese Academies are sponsored by VCU in collaboration with the DOE. Although the Startalk program is funded separately from the Virginia Governor's Foreign Language Academies, both programs operate concurrently and share similar designs. Therefore, the application submission and review processes have been combined.

The 2009 student application has been revised from previous years, and the school submission process has changed since 2007. Please read the *2009 Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians* or *2009 Guide for School Personnel* before proceeding. These and all materials relating to the Academies are available from the Web site above.

Included in the *Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians*:

- Time Line for Submission of Application Documents
- Introduction
- Academic Programs and Dates
- Program Descriptions
- Nomination Criteria for Applicants
- Student Selection Process
- Standards of Conduct
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Helpful Hints

Included in the *Guide for School Personnel*:

- Time Line for Submission of Application Documents
- Definition of Terms
- Dissemination of Information
- Criteria for Eligibility
- Testing
- Schools' Selection Process
- Schools' Nominee Submission Process
- VDOE's Selection Process
- VDOE's Notification Process

Directions for assembling and mailing the student applications are detailed on page 3 of this application packet, as well as in the *Guide for School Personnel*, referenced above. **All materials must be packed in the order indicated on the checklist and must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 23, 2009. Submit original completed applications to the appropriate address below:**

U.S. MAIL

Helen Small
Specialist for Foreign Languages
Virginia Department of Education
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120

FEDEX/UPS

Helen Small
Specialist for Foreign Languages
Virginia Department of Education
James Monroe Building – 23rd Floor
101 North Fourteenth Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(Schools shipping applications by a carrier other than U.S. mail must use the street address.)

APPLICATION PACKET
2009 PARTIAL IMMERSION FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACADEMIES
STARTALK ARABIC AND CHINESE
GOVERNOR'S JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND RUSSIAN STUDIES

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>

1. Copies of this application are available only from the Department of Education's Web site. The following two versions of the application are available at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAdates.html#Applications>:
 - A form-protected Word file that can be downloaded and completed using Microsoft Word
 - A .pdf file that can be printed and completed by hand
2. Completion of at least level two of any foreign language satisfies the foreign language eligibility requirement for these programs. Prior study of Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Russian is not a prerequisite to apply to these Academies. The primary focus is for students beginning the language, although differentiated language instruction is available to applicants who have studied the Academy languages.
3. Please do not use staples to assemble the application packet.
4. Submit only the original application, one original transcript, the original essays, and one copy of each essay.
5. To assist with more efficient data entry, please transfer certain information from various parts of the application to the COVER SHEET (Page 5).
6. Funding for the Governor's Foreign Language Academies will be shared between the local school division or the private school and the Virginia Department of Education. In order for your superintendent or headmaster to plan appropriately, please report the names of Academy applicants to the local gifted administrator and foreign language supervisor or designee who handles funding for this program as soon as they are determined and no later than January 15, 2009. Funding for the STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies depends upon separate, annual federal grant funding. There is no cost to local schools or school divisions for the STARTALK programs.
7. The availability of the 2009 Governor's and STARTALK Foreign Language Academies – in part or *in toto* – is dependent on available funding.

Application Deadline: January 23, 2009

The Virginia Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following position has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies: Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education, P.O. Box 2120, Richmond, VA 23218-2120, (804) 225-2023.

For further information on Federal nondiscrimination regulations, contact the Office for Civil Rights at OCR.DC@ed.gov or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

You may view Executive Order 1 (2006), (http://www.governor.virginia.gov/initiatives/ExecutiveOrders/2006/EO_1.cfm), which specifically prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, age, political affiliation, or against otherwise qualified persons with disabilities. The policy permits appropriate employment preferences for veterans and specifically prohibits discrimination against veterans. You may obtain additional information at the Commonwealth of Virginia's official Web site (<http://www.virginia.gov/cmsportal2>) concerning this equal opportunity policy.

Application assembly and submission

All completed application forms and supporting materials must be postmarked by **Friday, January 23, 2009**, to be considered. No exceptions will be made. The individual at the school responsible for assembly and mailing should return the application to:

U.S. MAIL

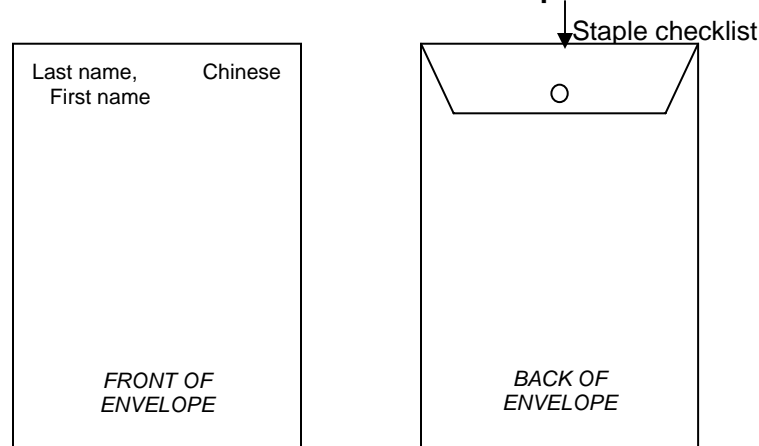
Helen Small
Specialist for Foreign Languages
Virginia Department of Education
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120

FEDEX/UPS

Helen Small
Specialist for Foreign Languages
Virginia Department of Education
James Monroe Building – 23rd Floor
101 North Fourteenth Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Instructions for Assembly of Applications

- **Use a separate manila envelope (approximately 9" x 12") for each student.**
- **Neatly label the FRONT of the envelope with a black marker as indicated below (see diagram):**
 - **Student's name (last name, first name) in the UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER**
 - **Language academy to which the student is applying in the UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER**
- **Place ALL materials for that student into the envelope, except for the checklist.**
 - **Keep the checklist separate and use it to ensure that the application packet is complete.**
 - **Include all documents on the checklist (in order), including the cover sheet, essays, transcript, and optional reply card, as appropriate.**
 - **Do not use staples to keep any pages of the application together.**
- **Staple the checklist to the BACK of the sealed envelope as indicated below:**



- **Repeat the above process for each student.**
- **Place the labeled manila envelope(s) containing the assembled application(s) into a separate mailing envelope or box.**
 - **Please stack applications neatly and do not fold applications.**
 - **Address and seal the mailing envelope or box.**
- **Mail or hand-deliver to the address above.**

CHECKLIST

2009 Partial Immersion Foreign Language Academies

Which Academy? ☐ STARTALK Arabic* ☐ STARTALK Chinese*
☐ Governor's Japanese Language ☐ Governor's Russian Studies

**Availability of STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies is subject to annual federal grant funding.*

NOTE: The individual responsible for assembling and submitting all materials must enclose the cover sheet and this checklist for each student nominated. Incomplete nomination packets will not be considered. Please use this checklist *while assembling the application packet* to ensure that a complete application is submitted. Staple checklist to the outside back of the manila envelope holding the individual student's application materials. Please refer to the Guide for School Personnel for additional details and instructions.

Enclosed in this packet are:

- ☐ A stamped and self-addressed acknowledgement postcard (optional)
- ☐ This checklist
- ☐ Cover sheet – [page 5](#) completed (attention to the following)
 - ☐ Number of points in designated areas for teacher recommendations entered
- ☐ ONE original application (please do not use staples to assemble) that includes:
 - ☐ Student section – [pages 6-10](#) + up to 4 pages of response from the student
 - ☐ Parent's or Guardian's Form – [pages 11-12](#)
 - ☐ Current or Most Recent Language Teacher's Form – [pages 13-14](#) + pages of response from language teacher
 - ☐ Second Teacher's/Counselor's/Sponsor's, etc., Form – [pages 15-16](#) + pages of response from second recommendation
 - ☐ Principal's or Headmaster's Form – [page 17](#)
 - ☐ All of the above forms have requested original signatures on pages 7, 12, 14, 16, and 17 (actual page numbers may vary, depending on the amount of text entered)
- ☐ Student's transcript
- ☐ Student's essays (2 pages)
- ☐ One copy of each essay
- ☐ Applicant's name has been reported to the local gifted education administrator and foreign language supervisor or contact person
- ☐ Please list name(s) and phone number(s) for the following contact people:

Please complete

Gifted education administrator or contact person for school division:

Phone number: () - ext.

Foreign language supervisor or contact person for school division:

Phone number: () - ext.

Nominating teacher:

Phone number: () - ext. E-mail:

Person responsible for packaging/mailing:

Phone number: () - ext.

COVER SHEET

Which Academy? ☐ **STARTALK Arabic*** ☐ **STARTALK Chinese***
☐ **Governor's Japanese Language** ☐ **Governor's Russian Studies**

**Availability of STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies is subject to annual federal grant funding.*

Please complete the following (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY):

Student's Legal Name:
(Last, first, middle)

Preferred Name:
(p. 5, #2)

Home Address:
(p. 5, #6)

E-mail:
(p. 5, #8)

Public School Division, if applicable:
(p. 5, #3)

Grade Level:
(p. 5, #9)

Current Level of Academy Language Study, if applicable:
(p. 5, #11)

Parent's/Guardian's Name:
(p. 10, #1 or #2)

Home Phone: () -
(p. 10, #1 or #2)

Work Phone: () - ext.
(p. 10, #1 or #2)

Please enter the total number of points from the teacher recommendations:

1st Teacher's Rating Score (p. 13): _____
(40 maximum)

2nd Teacher's Rating Score (p. 15): _____
(32 maximum)

Nominating Teacher:

School:

School Address:

School Phone: () - ext.

School Fax: () -

STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM

Page 1

Which Academy? ☐ STARTALK Arabic* ☐ STARTALK Chinese*
☐ Governor's Japanese Language ☐ Governor's Russian Studies

**Availability of STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies is subject to annual federal grant funding.*

- Notes: 1. Read the **Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians** and the entire packet before proceeding. The guide and all necessary application materials are available at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>.
2. Completion of all items is vital to the selection process.
3. Applications must be postmarked by Friday, January 23, 2009.
4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at the Web site above.
5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the nomination materials. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

1. Your name:
(Last, first, middle)
2. Name you prefer to be called (for nametag):
3. Name of public school division, if applicable:
4. Name of public or private school:
5. School telephone number, including area code: () -
6. Home mailing address:
7. Home telephone number, including area code: () -
8. E-mail:
9. Present grade level: ☐ 10 ☐ 11 10. Birth date:
11. Current level of academy language, if applicable:
12. Have you previously attended a Governor's Summer Residential Program?
☐ Yes ☐ No *If the answer is "yes," you are not eligible to attend another Governor's Academy and should not continue with the application.*
 Are you applying to another Governor's Summer Residential Program for the summer of 2009?
☐ Yes ☐ No *If the answer is "yes," you are not eligible to apply to multiple Governor's Summer Residential Programs and/or Academies for the same year and should not continue with the application.*
13. Consider very carefully the following questions:
 - a. Can you survive in a highly structured, yet stimulating and challenging environment with rules and expectations governing your behavior? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - b. Can you survive for three weeks knowing that you will have no telephone, e-mail, or personal contact with family or friends? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - c. Are you willing to take risks with your language skills in learning another language? ☐ Yes ☐ No

STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM

Page 2

14. Please submit two reference forms – one from your current foreign language teacher and a second from another teacher or counselor who is **not** a foreign language teacher but who knows you and your work. The forms are a part of this packet.
15. Read and sign the statement below:

If selected, I will abide by all rules and expectations of the Academy, and I will be present at all times from the opening ceremony until the final event scheduled on the last day of the Academy. I am aware that this is an academic program, NOT a camp, and am willing to work to improve my language skills in challenging and fun activities.

I understand that I may be dismissed for misconduct. Misconduct leading to dismissal will be reported to my school and may result in additional disciplinary action by my school division.

I certify that the information on this form is accurate and that I have received no assistance in the preparation of the essay. I further certify that I have read and understand all the information contained in the *Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians*.

Date: _____ **Signature of Applicant:** _____

STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM

Page 3

Please answer fully questions 16-32. You may use the fill-in forms of the Word version of this document, which expand automatically, or answer the questions on your own paper and attach them to this application form. Include your name on the upper right corner of each page. Your responses to all questions *may not exceed a total of four single-spaced typed pages*. Please restate the question in bold type above each response if using your own paper.

16. Which foreign language(s) have you studied in the past? For how many years?
17. Have you ever studied a language other than English outside school? Or do you speak a foreign language at home? Yes? No? If your answer is yes, which language(s) and under what circumstances, e.g., while living abroad, in a "language camp," through independent study, at home?
18. What have you liked most about the language(s) that you have studied?
19. What have you liked least?
20. Have you traveled or lived out of the country? Yes? No? If so, where, when, why, how long, etc.?
21. If you had to stay in another country for an extended period of time, would you make a great effort to learn the language spoken there, even though you could get along in English? Please explain.
22. List hobbies, sports, extracurricular and leisure-time activities and work experience in which you have participated. Be sure to include current or recent work experience and summer activities.
23. List any academic honors or civic awards/recognitions you have received.

(Continued on next page)

STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM
Page 4

Questions 24-32 will not impact selection consideration, but will be helpful to the director in planning and organizing the program.

24. **Do you work well with others? Please give specific examples. Explain how you adapt to challenges.**
25. **What topics or activities would you like to see as a part of the Academy program? If you were planning it, what kinds of things would you include?**
26. **Do you play a musical instrument, sing, dance, play a sport, or have any other particular talent that might be an asset to the Academy activities? Yes? No? If yes, please elaborate.**
27. **The Academy requires your presence for the entire three weeks, from opening day to closing day. Do you anticipate any other summer activities that might interfere with your uninterrupted attendance for the entire duration of the Academy? Yes? No? If the answer is yes, please explain.**
28. **Are you flexible enough to live in an environment where food choices are very limited? Yes? No?**
29. **Have you ever spent an extended period of time (a week or more) away from your family? Yes? No? If the answer is yes, please describe the circumstances.**
30. **If you were to experience homesickness, how would you deal with it?**
31. **Describe your ideal roommate.**
32. **List ten adjectives that you think describe you.**

STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM

Page 5

Student Essay Topics

You must answer **BOTH** essay topics. Please include your name at the top right corner of each page. Your essays will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- a. Amount of detailed information conveyed
- b. Flow of thought/structure
- c. Organization
- d. Breadth of vocabulary and grammatical accuracy

Essay 1:

Please prepare a **typed one-page, double-spaced essay (one page means one side of the paper)** responding to the following information. Answer both questions in your response:

According to a press release by the U. S. Department of Education (June 14, 2007), fewer than 1% of American high school students study languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Japanese, Korean, Russian, or Urdu, all of which have been identified as "critical-need" languages by the U.S. government.

Write an article for your school or city newspaper persuading more students to study either Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Russian language and culture. Answer the following questions in your article:

- a. Why do you think your chosen language is especially important to learn?
- b. What additional personal reasons might influence one's choice of language? Include courses, activities, and/or individuals that have increased your interest in Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Russian.

Essay 2:

Please prepare a **typed one-page, double-spaced essay (one page means one side of the paper)** responding to the following questions. Answer all three questions in your response:

- a. What do you feel are your personal strengths and in what way will they enable you to contribute to the success of the Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Russian Academy?
- b. How will you use your new knowledge and understanding of Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Russian language and culture in the future?
- c. In addition to studying language and culture, what else do you expect to gain from this experience?

DO NOT HAVE YOUR ESSAYS PROOFREAD OR CORRECTED BY YOUR TEACHER OR ANYONE ELSE. THEY MUST BE YOUR OWN WORK. Please write your name on the upper right-hand corner of each page of the essays. If it is determined that you have received assistance, you will not be considered for admission to the Academy.

Which Academy? ☐ STARTALK Arabic* ☐ STARTALK Chinese*
☐ Governor's Japanese Language ☐ Governor's Russian Studies

**Availability of STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies is subject to annual federal grant funding.*

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S FORM
(To be completed by the parent or guardian)
Page 1

- Notes:** 1. Read the *Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians* and the entire packet before proceeding. The guide and all necessary application materials are available at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>.
2. Applications must be postmarked by Friday, January 23, 2009.
3. If it is not appropriate to give information for both father and mother, please make appropriate adjustments.
4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at the Web site above.
5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the nomination materials. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

1. Father's name:

Home mailing address:

Telephone numbers, including area code:

Home: () -
Work: () - ext.

2. Mother's name:

Home mailing address:

Telephone numbers, including area code:

Home: () -
Work: () - ext.

3. City/County in which applicant resides:

4. Please identify a secondary contact, in case it should be necessary to contact you in an emergency and neither of the persons identified above is available.

Name:

Telephone numbers, including area code:

Address:

Home: () -
Work: () - ext.

Relationship to applicant:

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S FORM
Page 2

5. I, the parent (guardian) of _____, permit him/her to be nominated to participate in the 2009 Governor's or STARTALK Partial Immersion Foreign Language Academies. If selected, I understand that he or she must be present at all times from the opening ceremony until the final event scheduled on the last day of the Academy. I understand that for public school students, all expenses of room, board, and tuition will be paid by local and state funds. If my child is a private school student, I have confirmed how payment will be made for the local share of the tuition. I also understand that transportation to and from the Academy, an activity fee of \$30, an optional t-shirt fee of \$15, and money for personal expenses must be provided by the participants.

I understand that if selected for the Academy, my son or daughter will live in a dormitory and will abide by the rules and expectations set forth for the Academy, including no leave of absence except in cases of medical and/or family emergency, as described on page 8 of the *Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians*. I understand that failure to participate in the academic and activity programs or infraction of the rules and expectations will be just cause for immediate dismissal, and that I shall be responsible for arranging transportation or for assuming the costs of transportation arranged by the academy director. I also understand that misconduct leading to dismissal will be reported to my child's school and may result in additional disciplinary action by the school division.

I am aware that this is an academic program, NOT a camp, and that students must be willing to work to improve their language skills in challenging and fun activities. I understand that security and health services are provided for participants by the host site, as described in the *Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians*. I grant permission for a transcript of my son's or daughter's secondary school record to be sent as part of the application packet.

I have evaluated my child's abilities and have determined that he/she has the maturity to participate in the rigorous requirements of the Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Russian Academy and exercise appropriate judgment when away from home, and can survive a highly structured and challenging environment with rules and expectations governing his/her behavior.

Date: _____ **Signature of Parent/Guardian:** _____

Which Academy? ☐ STARTALK Arabic* ☐ STARTALK Chinese*
☐ Governor's Japanese Language ☐ Governor's Russian Studies

**Availability of STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies is subject to annual federal grant funding.*

CURRENT OR MOST RECENT FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER'S FORM

Page 1

- Notes:**
1. Read the *Guide for School Personnel* and the complete packet before proceeding. The guide and all necessary application materials are available at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>.
 2. Applications must be postmarked by Friday, January 23, 2009.
 3. Complete all items.
 4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at the Web site above.
 5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the nomination materials. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

Student's name:

School name:

Your name:

Position/Title:

1. Which language course(s) has the student taken with you?
2. Please estimate the extent to which the student demonstrates the qualities listed below by placing an X in the appropriate boxes. Be sure to rate each quality as accurately as possible. Accurate estimates better enable the faculty to tailor the program to the students' needs.

Attribute	Superior (4 points)	Good (3 points)	Fair (2 points)	Poor (1 point)
Interest in learning the language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Language learning aptitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Initiative, self-direction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Independence of thought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Determination to succeed when faced with challenges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attitude toward learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with teachers/adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Points				

CURRENT OR MOST RECENT FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER'S FORM**Page 2**

3. Academy students must be adaptable "team players." They may be shy or introverted, but they must not insulate themselves from others all of the time. Are you convinced that this student is sufficiently malleable to enjoy an extended period of group living? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. How would you rank this student among the foreign language students that you have taught? In the top: ☐ 2% ☐ 5% ☐ 10% ☐ 15% ☐ 20% ☐ below top 20%
5. How many years have you taught this foreign language?
6. What is the student's current or most recent grade in your language class?
7. Students are selected for the Governor's and STARTALK Foreign Language Academies based on a variety of criteria. The degree of success that they experience is directly related to their motivation to excel.

Please write and sign a letter of recommendation using school letterhead. Comment on this student's ability to meet the requirements listed below and cite some examples to support your comments. **Please be sure to focus on the items below.** Include the student's name on the upper right corner of each page.

- Ability to adapt to challenges
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude
- Ability to adapt to living away from home, family and friends
- Ability to adhere to rules and expectations of the program
- Motivation to succeed and desire to learn
- Ability to get along well with other young people and adults in a pleasant but intensive environment

I certify that to my knowledge the information provided above is accurate and that I have given this student no assistance in the preparation of the essays.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Which Academy? ☐ STARTALK Arabic* ☐ STARTALK Chinese*
☐ Governor's Japanese Language ☐ Governor's Russian Studies

**Availability of STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies is subject to annual federal grant funding.*

SECOND TEACHER'S RECOMMENDATION FORM

(or coach, sponsor, scout leader, etc., but **not** another foreign language teacher)

Page 1

- Notes:**
1. Read the *Guide for School Personnel* and the complete packet before proceeding. The guide and all necessary application materials are available at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>.
 2. Applications must be postmarked by Friday, January 23, 2009.
 3. Complete all items.
 4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at the Web site above.
 5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the nomination materials. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

Student's name:

School name:

Your name:

Position/Title:

1. Please estimate the extent to which the student demonstrates the qualities listed below. Be sure to rate each quality as accurately as possible. Accurate estimates better enable the faculty to tailor the program to the students' needs.

Attribute	Superior (4 points)	Good (3 points)	Fair (2 points)	Poor (1 point)
Initiative, self-direction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Independence of thought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Determination to succeed when faced with challenges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attitude toward learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with teachers/adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Points				

2. Academy students must be adaptable "team players." They may be shy or introverted, but they must not insulate themselves from others all of the time. Are you convinced that this student is sufficiently malleable to enjoy an extended period of group living? ☐ Yes ☐ No

SECOND TEACHER'S RECOMMENDATION FORM**Page 2**

3. In what way(s) have you worked with this student?
4. Students are selected for the Governor's and STARTALK Foreign Language Academies based on a variety of criteria. The degree of success that they experience is directly related to their motivation to excel.

Please write and sign a letter of recommendation using school letterhead. Comment on this student's ability to meet the requirements listed below and cite some examples to support your comments. **Please be sure to focus on the items below.** Include the student's name on the upper right corner of each page.

- Ability to adapt to challenges
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude
- Ability to adapt to living away from home, family and friends
- Ability to adhere to rules and expectations of the program
- Motivation to succeed and desire to learn
- Ability to get along well with other young people and adults in a pleasant but intensive environment

I certify that to my knowledge the information provided above is accurate, and that I am not this student's foreign language teacher. I have given this student no assistance in the preparation of the essays.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Which Academy? ☐ STARTALK Arabic* ☐ STARTALK Chinese*
☐ Governor's Japanese Language ☐ Governor's Russian Studies

**Availability of STARTALK Arabic and Chinese Academies is subject to annual federal grant funding.*

PRINCIPAL'S OR HEADMASTER'S FORM

- Notes:**
1. Read the *Guide for School Personnel* and the complete packet before proceeding. The guide and all necessary application materials are available at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>.
 2. Applications must be postmarked by Friday, January 23, 2009.
 3. Complete all items.
 4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at the Web site above.
 5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the nomination materials. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

Student's name:

Principal's or headmaster's name:

School name:

1. Applicant's actual or estimated rank in class:
☐ top 2% ☐ top 4% ☐ top 6% ☐ top 10% ☐ below top 10%
2. **IMPORTANT!** Attach a legible transcript of the applicant's high school record.
3. List the names and positions of local school selection committee members, if there was one.
4. Do you have any comments about this student's strengths and weaknesses that you think would be helpful to the selection committee in evaluating his/her application?

Certification Statement

I hereby certify that _____ is qualified and is genuinely interested in attending the Governor's Japanese Language or Russian Studies Academy, or the STARTALK Arabic or Chinese Academy. I thereby recommend this applicant for consideration as a participant in the Academy.

Date

Signature of Principal/Headmaster or Designee

Printed Name and Title